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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/938,452
	Filing Date	August 24, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Figiel et al.
	Art Unit	1714
	Examiner Name	J.D. Anthony
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	1944. NVF

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit/declaration(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Charles W. Almer National Starch and Chemical Company
Signature	<i>Charles W. Almer</i>
Date	FEB 4, 2004

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Appl. No.	:	09/938,452
Applicant	:	Edmund W. Figiel
Filed	:	August 24, 2001
Group Art Unit	:	1714
Examiner	:	Joseph David Anthony
Docket No.	:	1944.NVF

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir,

In response to the Office Action of October 7, 2003, for which the time to respond has been extended to February 7, 2004 by the Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, Applicants respectfully

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.
Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.